

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /065 W

----- 120594

R 301041Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2918

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

RUDKSAWCAMEMBASSY SOFIA 2073

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHREST 2377

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, RO, UR

SUBJECT: OPEN ROMANIAN-SOVIET LITERARY POLEMIC BREAKS OUT

1. ROMANIAN LITERARY WEEKLY "ROMANIA LITERARA" (RL) (MAY 29)  
HAS TAKEN SHOT AT "LITERATURNAYA GAZETA" (USSR) OVER SOVIET  
PAPER'S NEGATIVE REVIEW OF MARIN PREDA'S NOVEL "DELIRUL".  
THIS IS MOST OPENLY POLEMICAL POLITICO-LITERARY BLAST  
ROMANIANS HAVE MADE AGAINST SOVIETS IN EMBASSY'S MEMORY AND

IS NOT GOOD AUGURIOR ACTUAL STATE OF ROMANIAN-SOVIET  
IDEOLOGICAL RELATIONS.

2. CRITIC OVID S. CROHMALNICEANU LAMBASTS K. SAVIN (LITGAZ, MAY  
14) FOR ADOPTING "ATTITUDE OF ALL-KNOWING PROFESSORIAL SUPERIORITY"  
AS IF CAPABLE OF TEACHING PREDA HOW TO WRITE HIS BOOK;  
"MIXING HIMSELF WITHOUT ANY RETICENCE" IN ROMANIAN INTERNAL  
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LITERARY DEBATE

BEFORE ROMANIAN CRITICS THEMSELVES HAD  
FINISHED WITH PREDA: AND "MAKING GRAVE IDEOLOGICAL  
REPROACHES".

3. SAVIN IS ACCUSED OF SETTING HIMSELF UP AS "SUPREME  
JUDGE", GIVING OUT "SENTENCE WITHOUT APPEAL", "PRESCRIBING  
TO AUTHOR" HOW HE SHOULD CONTINUE NOVEL, AND USING SUCH  
LABELS AS "IDEALIST CONCEPTIONS" AND "LOSS OF CLASS CRITERIA"  
WHICH REVIVE MEMORIES OF "WELL-KNOWN PRACTICES OF LAMENTABLE,  
NOT TO SAY NOTORIOUS EFFECTS" (I.E. STALINISM AND BULLYING OF  
EE SATELLITES). CROHMALNICEANU ADDS THAT IT IS HARD TO  
UNDERSTAND HOW LITGAZ "SHELTERED IN ITS PAGES SUCH AN  
UNACCEPTABLE INTERVENTION" ON WHATEVER PRETEXT.

4. COMMENT: ROMANIAN INTELLECTUALS FIND RL PIECE EXTREMELY  
UNUSUAL, ESPECIALLY IN POUW-1971 PERIOD WHEN GOR HAS ESCHEWED  
GRATUITOUS IRRITANTS IN RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW. PREDA'S NOVEL,  
READ HERE WITH SOME SURPRISE, HAS RECEIVED SOME MILD KNOCKS FOR GOING  
TOO FAR IN REHABILITATING THE 1940-44 DICTATOR GENERAL  
ANTONESCU PORTRAYING HIM AS MAN TRAPPED BY CIRCUMSTANCES IN  
1940 AND FINALLY HAVING THE MERIT OF CRACKING DOWN ON THE  
IRON GUARD EXTREMISTS IN 1941. MOST REVIEWS HAVE PRAISED  
NOVEL'S LITERARY QUALITIES WHILE IGNORING ITS POLITICAL SIDE.  
DEFINITIVE CRITICAL POSITION HAS NOT YET EMERGED, BUT NOVEL IS  
WIDELY RUMORED TO HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED FROM SCHEMA APPROVED BY  
CEAUSESCU HIMSELF AND FROM HISTORICAL SOURCE MATERIALS MADE  
ESPECIALLY AVAILABLE TO PREDA. CROHMALNICEANU, IN NICE IRONY,  
IS BESSARABIAN JEW HIMSELF WAS AUTHOR OF SOME OF MOST  
VIOLENT DIATRIBES, FOLLOWING SOVIET LINE IN STALIN'S EPOCH,  
AGAINST FOREIGN LITERATURE (BUT WHO HAS SINCE REFORMED WITH  
CHANGE IN RCP LINE).

5. DESPITE ABOVE OUTBURST, EVIDENTLY TRIGGERED BY WHAT RCP  
FEELS IS EXCESSIVE SOVIET PUBLIC MEDDLING WHICH BROKE TACIT  
UNDERSTANDING, ROMANIAN LITERARY PUBLICATIONS STILL KEEP POLILY  
TONE GENERALLY TOWARD SOVIETS, AND OLD STALINIST M. BENIUC, AFTER  
PUBLISHING ARTICLE PRAISING SHOLOKHOV, WAS RECENTLY DISPATCHED  
TO USSR FOR LATTER'S 70TH BIRTHDAY. BENIUC, WHOM ROMANIAN  
LIBERALS REFER TO AS "RAMO" (SOFTHEADED), WAS RESTORED TO  
UNION OF WRITERS BOARD THIS SPRING, APPARENTLY AS COSMETIC  
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GESTURE TO SOVIETS (HE HAS LOST MOST REAL INFLUENCE). RCP WOULD  
PREFER TO AVOID POLEMICS WITH MOSCOW BUT APPARENTLY ISSBEADY  
TO ANSWER IN KIND IF NECESSARY.  
VIETS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LITERATURE, PUBLICATIONS, DISPUTES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ellisoob  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BUCHAR02377  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750189-0805  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, RO, UR  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
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